REMARKS

This supplemental response is submitted to provide the Examiner with digital images comparing the claimed invention and the method of the cited reference.

As explained in the main response submitted on March 10, 2008, in accordance with the present invention, each pixel in the one scan line matches another pixel in the multiple scan lines in the other digital image. Accordingly, the image matching means can match the left and the right images if one image is slightly rotated or zoomed like the above Fig.1. In contrast, the image matching means of the cited reference, U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0012459 (Oh) cannot match the left and the right images since each pixel in the one scan line matches another pixel in the single scan line in the other digital image.

The following Figs. 2 and 3 show the results of an experiment which compares the stereo image matching system in accordance with the present invention with a stereo image matching system in which each pixel in the one scan line matches another pixel in the single scan line in the other digital image in a same manner as described in the Oh publication when one camera axis is rotated slightly, or one input image is slightly zoomed.

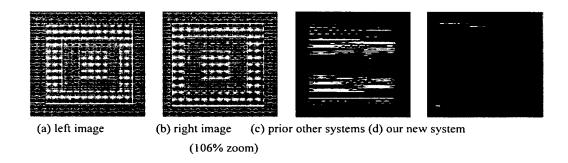


Fig. 2 Output comparison between a prior system and the present invention

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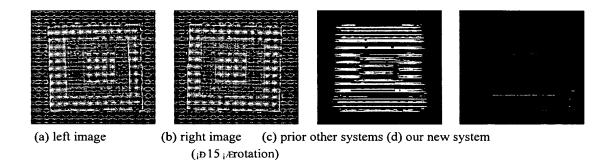


Fig. 3 Output comparison between a prior system and the present invention

As shown in Figs. 2 and 3, when one camera axis is slightly rotated or one input image is slightly zoomed, the present invention has much smaller errors compared to the prior system. The present invention doesn't need any prior camera calibration information for stereo matching. Therefore, the positively recited feature of matching each pixel in one scan line with pixels in multiple scan lines results in a noticeable improvement in output image quality, providing further evidence of the substantial differences between the claimed method and the method described in the Oh patent.

For the reasons given above, and also those given in the response submitted on March 10, 2008, withdrawal of the rejections and expedited passage of the application to issue is requested.

Respectfully submitted, BACON & THOMAS, PLLC

By: BENJAMIN E. URCIA Registration No. 33,805

Serial Number 10/761,193

BACON & THOMAS, PLLC 625 Slaters Lane, 4th Floor Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Telephone: (703) 683-0500

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